

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) An information processing device comprising:

a display unit having changeable display brightness;

a detector configured to detect a lightness of surroundings;

a ~~determining~~ calculating unit configured to ~~determine~~ calculate a target display brightness of the display unit ~~responsive to~~ based on the surrounding lightness detected by the detector;

a selector configured to select one of a first mode and a second mode; and

~~a changing unit configured to change the display brightness of the display unit based on the target display brightness determined by the determining unit,~~

~~wherein the changing unit changes the display brightness of the display in a stepwise fashion if the first mode is selected and changes the display brightness of the display instantly if the second mode is selected.~~

a brightness control unit configured to supply a brightness control signal for changing a current display brightness to the display unit when the current display brightness does not equal the target display brightness,

wherein, when the first mode is selected, the brightness control unit supplies a first brightness control signal changing the current display brightness by a predetermined brightness which is smaller than a difference between the current display brightness and the target brightness, and

when the second mode is selected, the brightness control unit supplies a second brightness control signal changing the current display brightness by the difference.

19. (Previously Presented) The information processing device according to claim 18, further comprising an input unit configured to input a selection one of the first mode and the second mode upon a user operation.

20. (Currently Amended) The information processing device according to claim 18, wherein the selector selects the first mode when the difference between the target display brightness and ~~[[a]]the~~ current display brightness is larger than a predetermined threshold brightness and selects the second mode when the difference between the target display brightness and the current display brightness is not larger than the predetermined threshold brightness.

21.-22. (Cancelled).

23. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling brightness of an information processing device having a display unit with changeable display brightness, the method comprising:

detecting a lightness of surroundings;

~~determining~~ calculating a target display brightness of the display unit ~~responsive to~~
based on the detected surrounding lightness;

selecting one of a first mode and a second mode; and

~~changing the display brightness of the display unit based on the determined target display brightness;~~

~~wherein the display brightness of the display is changed in a stepwise fashion if the first mode is selected and the display brightness of the display is changed instantly if the second mode is selected~~

supplying a brightness control signal for changing a current display brightness to the display unit when the current display brightness does not equal the target display brightness,

wherein, when the first mode is selected, supplying a first brightness control signal changing the current display brightness by a predetermined brightness which is smaller than a difference between the current display brightness and the target brightness, and

when the second mode is selected, supplying a second brightness control signal changing the current display brightness by the difference.

24. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 23, further comprising enabling user input of the selecting of the first mode and the second mode.

25. (Currently Amended) The information processing device according to claim 23, further comprising selecting the first mode when the difference between the target display brightness and [[a]] the current display brightness is larger than a predetermined threshold brightness and selecting the second mode when the difference between the target display brightness and the current display brightness is not larger than the predetermined threshold brightness.

26. (Previously Presented) The information processing device according to claim 23, further comprising setting the display brightness of the display unit to a first brightness level when a first lightness level is detected and to a second brightness level when a second lightness level is detected, and

changing from the first brightness level to a third brightness level which is between the first brightness level and the second brightness level and then from the third brightness level to the second brightness level when the display brightness is changed from the first brightness level to the second brightness level.

27. (Previously Presented) The information processing device according to claim 26, further comprising changing from the first brightness level to the third brightness level and then from the third brightness level to the second brightness level after a lapse of a predetermined time period.

28. (New) The information processing device according to claim 18, wherein the predetermined brightness is obtained by dividing a brightness range of the changeable display brightness with a predetermined number.

29. (New) The information processing device according to claim 20, wherein the predetermined threshold brightness is variable.

30. (New) The method according to claim 23, wherein the predetermined brightness is obtained by dividing a brightness range of the changeable display brightness with a predetermined number.

31. (New) The method according to claim 25, wherein the predetermined threshold brightness is variable.